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IN THE CLAIMS

1-24.   (Canceled)

25.   (Currently amended)   A method ~~as claimed in claim 24,~~ for transferring data within a storage system, comprising the steps of:

reading current data;

referring to a staging information table that includes information which indicates the direction of pre-reading and the data volume of pre-reading, while the current data is being read;

staging the current data to a cache memory in accordance with the information referenced in the step of referring to the staging information table;

generating redundant data from a plurality of data;

managing the redundant data and the data from which the redundant data is generated as a parity group; and

restoring the current data from the redundant data and from the data from which the redundant data is generated in the event of a data read failure;

wherein said step of referring to the staging information table further refers to information in the staging information

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table indicating whether said redundant data is to be read,

regardless of whether the current data is successfully read in

said reading step.

26. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

25, wherein said step of referring to the staging information

table further refers to a redundant data staging execution

flag that indicates whether said redundant data is to be read.

27. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

26, wherein, if said redundant data staging execution flag

indicates that said redundant data is to be read, data in the

parity group containing said current data is read.

28. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

26, further comprising the step, performed by a user, of

setting the redundant data staging execution flag in said

staging information table.

29. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

26, further comprising the step, performed by an electronic

controller, of setting the redundant data staging execution

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flag in said staging information table in response to a
command.

30. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim
25, wherein said step of referring to the staging information
table further refers to a pre-read staging execution flag that
indicates whether successive data to said current data is also
to be read, in response to a command.

31. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim
30, wherein, if said pre-read staging execution flag indicates
that said pre-read staging is to be executed when the current
data is read, forward successive data to the current data is
read.

32. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim
30, wherein, if said pre-read staging execution flag indicates
that said pre-read staging is to be executed when the current
data is read, backward successive data to the current data is
read.

33. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim
30, wherein, if said pre-read staging execution flag indicates

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that said pre-read staging is to be executed when the current

data is read, forward and backward successive data to the

current data is read.

34.   (Previously presented)   A method as claimed in claim

30, further comprising the step, performed by a user, of

setting the pre-read staging execution flag in said staging

information table.

35.   (Previously presented)   A method as claimed in claim

30, further comprising the step, performed by an electronic

controller, of setting the pre-read staging execution flag in

said staging information table in response to a command.

36.   (Currently amended)   A method ~~as claimed in claim~~

~~23,~~ for transferring data within a storage system, comprising

the steps of:

    reading current data;

    referring to a staging information table that includes

information which indicates the direction of pre-reading and

the data volume of pre-reading, while the current data is

being read;

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staging the current data to a cache memory in accordance

with the information referenced in the step of referring to

the staging information table;

 wherein said step of referring to the staging information

table further refers to information in the staging information

table indicating whether redundant data to said current data

is to be read, regardless of whether the current data is

successfully read in said reading step.

 37. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

36, wherein said step of referring to the staging information

table further refers to a redundant data staging execution

flag that indicates whether said redundant data is to be read.

 38. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

36, further comprising the step, performed by a user, of

setting the redundant data staging execution flag in said

staging information table.

 39. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim

36, further comprising the step, performed by an electronic

controller, of setting the redundant data staging execution

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flag in said staging information table in response to a

command.

    40-51.   (Canceled)

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